

Less Payment to Female Workers

† 2124. SHRIMATI SAROJ DUBEY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that female workers are less paid than their male counterparts in most of unorganised sectors in the whole country;

(b) whether Government are going to take any effective and concrete steps in this regard;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (d) The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 provides for payment of equal remuneration to women for the same work or work of similar nature. The Central Government is the appropriate Government in relation to any employment carried on by or under the authority of the Central Government or railway administration, or in relation to a banking company, a mine, oilfield or major port or any corporation established by or under a Central Government Act. In respect of all other employments, the State Governments are the appropriate Governments. Under the Act, officers of the appropriate Government notified as Inspectors make inspections and prosecute those found violating provisions of the Act. The Central Government monitors implementation of the Act.

There is an Advisory Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of the Union Labour Minister with representation of employers and workers, Members of Parliament and NGOs. The Advisory Committee has been meeting from time to time to advise the Government in regard to the extent to which women may be employed, hours of work, suitability of women in employment, need for increasing employment opportunities for women and part-time employment, etc. Similar bodies have also

† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

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RAJYA SABHA

been set up by 23 State Governments/Union Territories to oversee the implementation of the provision of the Act.

Equal Remuneration Act

2125. SHRIMATI CHANDRA KALA PANDEY: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received representation regarding withdrawing notification issued under the Equal Remuneration Act which provide different working conditions for air hostesses and flight pursers of Air India;

(b) if so, whether Government have considered the representation; and

(c) steps taken by Government to withdraw the notification?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) to (c) The Air India Hostesses Association has filed a complaint before the controlling authority Assistant Labour Commissioner (C) under Section 7 of the Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 on 2nd May, 1990. In the said complaint they have requested the competent authority to give directions to Air India to (1) allow them to fly up to 58 years; (2) abolish medical examination; (3) abolish all forms of disparity in promotional avenues; (4) common line of promotion; (5) equal status on Board.

Conditions of Tea Garden Workers

2126. SHRI DRUPAD BARGOHAIN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what policy his Ministry has adopted to enforce the law as regards the low paid, underfed, unhealthy tea garden workers in different tea producing States of India; and

(b) whether his Ministry has taken action to force the owners of tea gardens to provide all the amenities as per law?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL): (a) The Plantation Labour Act, 1951 seeks to regulate the conditions of plantation labour generally. It applies in the first instance to tea,